

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 162797

20

ORIGIN OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 AGR-10 /034 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TUNIS

UNCLAS STATE 162797

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV

SUBJECT: AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL

1. KENNETH MUELLER, PRESIDENT, AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL HAS REPORTED TO OPIC POSITIVE FINDINGS BY FORREST WALLACE, CONSULTANT OF OPIC AND AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL, ON PRELIMINARY INQUIRY INTO FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A FRUIT AND VEGETABLE MARKETING, PACKAGING AND SHIPPING VENTURE IN TUNISIA. MUELLER REQUESTS EMBASSY TRANSLATE AND DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO HASSAN BELKHODJA, MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

--"MR. WALLACE REPORTS HIS VERY CORDIAL WELCOME BY YOUR EXCELLENCY AND THE INTERESTING OPPORTUNITY WHICH WE ARE NOW ACTIVELY CONSIDERING. AS WE UNDERSTAND IT THE NEXT STEP WOULD BE A FEASIBILITY STUDY TO FURTHER SURVEY AND DEFINE PROJECT POSSIBILITIES. WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS WE WILL RECEIVE A PRELIMINARY REPORT FROM MR. WALLACE WHICH WILL ASSIST US IN MAKING OUR RECOMMENDATIONS TO OPIC. IN THE MEANTIME WE ARE PLEASED TO ADVISE THAT WE ARE MOVING FORWARD ON THIS PROGRAM NOW. WE WOULD HOPE TO BE IN CONTACT WITH YOU AGAIN WITHIN 15 DAYS.. K.M. MUELLER,
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PRESIDENT, THE AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL". INGERSOLL

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